

**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
Park and Recreation Conference Room  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall  
Monday, March 09, 2009  
3:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Janet Miller, Tom Roth, Andy Solter, John Stevens,  
and Bryan Frye

**Absent:** Glen Dey, Matt Goolsby

**Also Present:** Doug Kupper, Director, Park and Recreation; Barbara McGuire, Lee Ann  
Sack, staff. Delano Lee Webster, Curt Van Boening, Fred Mann, citizens.

President Miller called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

Three visitors from the public were in attendance; however, they offered no items for the public agenda.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Item 1: Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Solter, second by Stevens, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to approve the Park Board meeting minutes of February 09, 2009.**

**Item 2A: Play City Certification – Barbara McGuire, presenter**

Barbara McGuire, Aquatics Manager/Special Events Supervisor, gave a PowerPoint presentation on obtaining Playful City USA certification. The initiative is sponsored by KaBOOM, a national non-profit organization whose vision is a great place to play within every walking distance of every child in America. 67 communities are currently certified, none in Kansas. Five required commitments were detailed; Create a play committee, commission or task force, Design an annual action plan for play, Conduct a playspace audit, Outline of financial and civic investment, and Proclaim and celebrate an annual play day.

Once certified as a Playful City, direct tangible benefits would be highway signs, special incentive opportunities and inclusion in a national media campaign. Application deadline is May 1. Re-certification is due yearly.

It was suggested by Miller and Solter, that this certification would keep the PROS (Park Recreation Open Space) plan in the forefront of the community. Frye and Miller highlighted the time constraint of initiating a committee and identifying all commitments in eight weeks. There was discussion of potential committee members. Lavonta Williams was suggested from Wichita City Council. Frye accepted the position of chairman to initiate the committee. Miller asked if we must meet the May 1, 2009 deadline, or if the application could be submitted May 1, 2010. That option is possible if the committee and commitments are not completed by the deadline. This item will be placed on the Park Board Retreat agenda for additional input.

**On a motion by Solter, second by Stevens, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, to endorse the Playful City proposal and go forward with the formation of a committee, chaired by Frye, including 10 representatives from business, government and community, to initiate obtaining the Playful City certification.**

#### **Item 2B: Possible Reductions to 2009 Budget**

Kupper presented a draft of possible scenarios for 2009-2010 Park Board budget reductions and potential service level reductions. Kupper detailed the report with Park Board Members, answered member questions, and conveyed the seriousness of budget concerns for the coming year. The scenarios were presented for information only; no action was required from the Board.

Frye expressed concern over any pool closures, citing families will be staying home from vacations and using the pools during current economic conditions. Miller voiced concern that leaving the pools unused would cause catastrophic structure damage. Stevens stated no cuts should be made from Park and Recreation due to community impact, and that cuts should be made from other departments. All members gave support for the difficult budget choices that will have to be made.

Miller excused herself from the meeting for another appointment. The meeting was turned over to Frye, Vice President, Board of Park Commissioners.

#### **Item 3: CIP**

Kupper reviewed CIP worksheet 02-20-2009, and revised CIP worksheet 03-05-2009 with Park Board Members. Kupper reported that another reduction has been requested. The 2007 CIP will be reviewed for additional input and an updated ten year plan. The most current CIP worksheet will be reviewed at Park Board Retreat. The worksheets were information only; no action was required from the Board.

#### **Item 4: Review of Pending Issues**

None.

#### **Updates from the Director and President**

Work will begin on the Park Board Retreat Agenda. A park tour for members is still possible.

Frye noted the excellent condition of Buffalo Park on a recent visit with family. He appreciated the enjoyment the Park provided and suggested other members take time to visit Buffalo Park.

#### **Item 6: Issues on the Horizon**

None.

**Item 7: Adjourn**

There being no other business, Frye adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m.

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~~Janet L. Miller, President~~  
Bryan Frye, Interim President

ATTEST:

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Lee Ann Sack, Recording Secretary